



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/800,203	03/12/2004	Steven Van der Hoeven	FORT1110	2509

44654 7590 06/25/2007
SPRINKLE IP LAW GROUP
1301 W. 25TH STREET
SUITE 408
AUSTIN, TX 78705

EXAMINER

CHAVIS, JOHN Q

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
----------	--------------

2193

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
-----------	---------------

06/25/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/800,203

Applicant(s)

VAN DER HOEVEN, STEVEN

Examiner

John Chavis

Art Unit

2193

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 March 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-54 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 2-5-07
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

1. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

2. The claimed invention of claims 37-54 is directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claims 37 - 54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. The current focus of the Patent Office in regard to statutory inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 101 for method claims and claims that recite a judicial exception (software) is that the claimed invention recite a practical application. Practical application can be provided by a physical transformation or a useful, concrete and tangible result. No physical transformation is recited and additionally, the final result of the claim is software, which is not a tangible result because when an system is claimed, hardware components are expected as part of the system. The claimed formulating steps are considered merely software and therefore not components of a system. The steps are considered software per se. The following link on the World Wide Web is for the United States Patent And Trademark Office (USPTO) policy on 35 U.S.C. §101.

http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/guidelines101_20051026.pdf

Specification

3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the text of a related application number has been omitted on page 2.

Appropriate correction is required.

Oath/Declaration

4. A new oath or declaration appears to be required because it appears that the applicant is claiming a related application in the specification on page 2; however, it appears that the related application number has also been omitted from the oath. The wording of an oath or declaration cannot be amended. If the wording is not correct or if all of the required affirmations have not been made or if it has not been properly subscribed to, a new oath or declaration is required. The new oath or declaration must properly identify the application of which it is to form a part, preferably by application number and filing date in the body of the oath or declaration. See MPEP §§ 602.01 and 602.02.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-54 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Lee et al. (2005/0044495).

Claims

1. A method for efficient

Lee

See the title and the abstract.

multilingual text input, comprising:

formulating a candidate based on a prefix and an input,

See sects. 0058 and 0065.

wherein the candidate comprises a set of symbols and a score;

See sects. 0060-0061.

formulating a prediction based on the set of symbols associated with the candidate;

See set. 0068.

formulating a proposition based on the candidate or the prediction.

See sects. 0063-0064, 0078-0080
And 0092-0093.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the prefix is empty, entered by a user, or a previous proposition.

See sect. 0059, which indicates that there is no one to one conversions between candidates.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the score of the candidate is based on a score of the prefix concatenated with the input.

See sect. 0070.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the score of the candidate is based on a score of the input combined with the score of the prefix.

“ “ “

5. The method of claim 4, wherein the candidate is one of a set of candidates where the score of each of the candidates in the set is above a threshold.

See sects. 0072-0075.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein formulating a candidate further comprises ranking the set of candidates based upon the

“ “ “

score of each of the candidates.

7. The method of claim 6, wherein formulating a candidate is based on a language model.

See sects. 0079-0081.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the score of the candidate is based on a string which is the longest string in the language model which is an extension of the prefix.

See sect.0029.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the prediction is one of a set of predictions.

See sect. 0058, which indicates multiple candidates or probabilities.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein formulating a prediction is based on a usage model.

See sect. 0060.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein each of the set of predictions is a sequence corresponding to a path through a tree starting from a node based on the candidate and ending with a terminal node.

See sect. 0061, in which the ranked list is considered to function as the applicant's tree. Also, see sects. 0080 and 0083.

12. The method of claim 11, wherein formulating a prediction comprises scoring each of the predictions based on frequency of appearance, length of the path through the tree, or the candidate.

See Sects. 0097-0099.

13. The method of claim 9, further comprising determining a set of synonyms for the prediction.

See sects. 0104-0106.

14. The method of claim 13, wherein the set of synonyms is

“ “ “

Art Unit: 2193

based on the terminal node of the prediction in the tree.

15. The method of claim 14, wherein the set of synonyms is stored in the terminal node.

See sects. 0090, 0102 and 0105.

16. The method of claim 14, further comprising scoring each of the set of synonyms based on a score of the prediction and the score of the candidate on which each synonym is based.

See sects. 0080 and 0093.

17. The method of claim 16, further comprising ranking the set of synonyms.

" " " "

18. The method of claim 17, further comprising storing the set of synonyms, the set of predictions and a set of candidates, wherein the set of synonyms, the set of candidates and the set of predictions are ranked.

" " " "

Claims 19-36 and 37-54 are rejected as claims 1-18.

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Chavis whose telephone number is (571) 272-3720. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 9:00am-5:30pm, EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

JC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John Chavis".

John Chavis
Primary Examiner AU-2193